

## THE OMAHA BEE

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When the stickups are caught, it will be up to the court to stick them for good long prison sentences.

As the Navy department views the affair, the over-reach of American mills spoils their usefulness in a shell game.

The railroads blame the shippers, and the shippers blame the railroads, for car shortage. "Fifty-fifty" as it were.

Every method advanced for reducing the high cost of living eventually comes around to the first principle of saving—prudent economy in the home.

A vast quantity of financial cream must be skimmed this year to make up one-half the national deficit, amounting to \$236,000,000. It is evident Uncle Sam will have few holes in his skimmers.

Of course it is merely coincidence that the need of resorting to a bond issue to supplement a revenue shortage invariably happens to come when we have a democratic administration in our midst.

Now and then the august senate fits action to the occasion. "After listening for two hours to a speech by Senator Works of California," says a Congressional Minute, "the senate adjourned for the day." Small wonder.

Boasting about Omaha's prosperity operates to attract everybody who is abroad looking for financial support for worthy public or charitable enterprises. A reputation for generosity is a good thing, but it also has its drawbacks.

Nebraska has tried both the sale and the leasing plans with reference to its state school lands and after the test of experience deliberately decided against the sale plan. Tell us what, if anything, has really happened to justify reopening the case.

As the stipend of the Nebraska lawmaker is strictly limited to \$600 by constitutional provision, the only gainers from a protracted session are the per diem employees who don't care how long the final adjournment is shoved off by time-fritting diversions.

Governor Neville's flock of gold-lace colonels is so numerous that it is doubtful whether all of them can be gotten into one photograph—which makes it questionable whether it will be worth the price to them to equip themselves with uniforms and accoutrements.

The prospect looms large at Washington that congress will strip "war brides" for some of the raiment to cover the shocking nakedness of the national treasury. In that event the favorites of other days may be driven to the extremity of using a postage stamp as a Mother Hubbard.

The army insists it was not its fault that it did not accomplish what it set out to do in Mexico. Political considerations anticipated military results. Viewed from the standpoint of military duty the expedition won laurels for itself and credit for the service. Return to "God's country" ends an awkward situation.

The Bethlehem Steel company counters on Secretary Daniels' assertions by offering to build two of the four battle cruisers at the same cost as the two built in government yards, besides agreeing to have the ships ready for service ahead of the government ships. The offer blows a gaping hole in Secretary Daniels' assertion of "exorbitant bids."

## Consider the Hen

Wall Street Journal.

One of the good things to be given the American people in the near future is a new hen. A government experiment station is said to be working on the problem, and expects in the near future to give the American public the benefit of its labors in the shape of a strictly business hen. Heretofore our hens have been specialists in the various lines of poultry products. The Leghorns and other Mediterranean breeds deal exclusively in eggs and pay little attention to the fascinations of a rooster. On the other hand, while the big breeds of Asiatic extraction carry beautifully, the complaint is that they are lazy. Even when eggs are worth 98 cents a dozen and corn \$1 a bushel, they stick to the union rate of production. Braving the penalties of the Sherman law against combinations, scientific breeders have been employed to merge all the good qualities of the two classes of producers of poultry products into one. The result should demonstrate again how much more desirable an abundance of eggs and the ability to maintain them. The daughters of this new hen are expected to line the nests with eggs, while, like a devotee of Moloch, she will offer her sons to be roasted. In fact, they will dispute with the turkey for the place of honor on the table.

A hen may be a little thing in the eyes of the unthinking. Yet among the country's greatest assets may be classed the hen and the dairy cow. They form two of the surest sources of food supply and guarantee against famine. What would not Germany give now for an abundance of hens and cows and the ability to maintain them? Either of the two produce more in value than our average wheat crop. All the gold and silver mined by the world in any year does not equal the value of the product of either the American hen or dairy cow.

If, therefore, governmental aid succeeds in developing an improved type of hen, it means more to those who consume food, as most of us do, than the eradication of the boll weevil or even of the packing of pork at Washington.

## Clearing the Car Congestion.

Now the Interstate Commerce commission has set itself to a task that will provide a real test of its powers and ability. It proposes to clear up the existing freight car congestion, relieve the stress incident to enforced shortage of transportation facilities in producing sections, and to establish a balance that will restore normal conditions throughout the country. First off, it issues an order to all railroads, requiring that all cars be returned to their owners within a specified time. After this is accomplished, certain regulations needed to keep cars moving are to be enforced. Obstacles to be encountered by the commission in its crusade are mainly those responsible for the abnormal situation in the transportation industry. This is the excessive movement of commodities in one direction. General distribution has been neglected in favor of the special service of the export trade with a resultant blockade that has been seriously reflected in derangement of business in other sections. The most serious of present factors is that while the suffering sections of the country are clamoring for relief, others are demanding cars that more goods may be sent to the seaboard. If the Interstate Commerce commission succeeds in unscrambling this omelette, it will do more of real good than it has yet achieved in all its previous history.

## Champ Clark—Early Bird.

The prize for the first glimpse of the first robin has not yet been pulled down, but the announcement of Champ Clark that he will be candidate for the democratic nomination in 1920 marks him as the presidential "early bird." To be sure, Champ adds the little condition, "If the sign is right," which means that the prospect of victory will have to be very bad indeed to keep him off the track.

What Champ Clark's already announced candidacy for 1920 presages for the democratic party is a purely speculative question. Looking back to Baltimore, it is hardly to be expected that he will be the preferred heir-apparent of the Wilson dynasty, nor is it within the probabilities that he can escape the active opposition of the Bryan element.

Yet be it remembered Champ Clark carried the democratic primary in Nebraska in 1912. Can he do it again? Will the same forces that backed him then be behind him for another try? If it should get down to choice between Champ Clark and Bryan, what would Nebraska democrats do?

Far be it from us to play the oracle for our democratic friends, but here are some interrogation points for them to juggle with.

## Effect of Webb-Kenyon Decision.

What is to be the effect of the action of the United States supreme court upholding the Webb-Kenyon law upon the prohibition movement? This very vital question finds all sorts of answers in the current comment on the decision. One view is that it insures speedy nation-wide prohibition, and another, diametrically opposed, that it interposes a new obstacle to the federal amendment. All agree, however, that it makes it possible for "dry" states to make their prohibition laws as effective as they want to make them.

Referring to it as an attempt of certain states to force upon all the states the adoption of their habits, the New York Times, for example, says "the court has found for the country a way of escape from that peril" which "would be destructive of our theory of local self-government."

The New York World is of the opinion that "this decision will cause more consternation in many of the prohibition states than anywhere else outside of the express companies and wholesale liquor houses which cater especially to the prohibition trade. State governments no longer have an excuse for failing to enforce prohibition. The ancient plea that state authority was nullified by federal authority and that there could be no state interference with interstate commerce has lost its force." At the same time it sees "infinite possibilities" in giving to the doctrine of state rights "a new force and a new direction" presumably for federal help to make state laws on other subjects effective.

To the Boston Transcript, on the other hand, "it seems quite probable that the effect will be to put a certain restraint upon the adoption of prohibitory laws within the states" because "it will be impracticable as a legislative proposition to adopt prohibition without making it fully effective," and it suggests that "there are states which may even be inclined to abandon the prohibition now in force."

Nebraska people, who have recently gone through a prohibition campaign, will see chiefly the counter-balance in the fact that hereafter the "prohibition-doesn't-prohibit" argument can no longer be used to advantage, and that has been one of the mainstays of the "wets." Generally speaking, the decision has given visible impetus to the "drys" and has plainly impressed congress with the growing strength of the nation-wide movement.

## Democrats Playing for Place.

Douglas county democrats apparently intend to take no unnecessary chances in their effort to hold on to whatever offices have fallen into their clutches. Representative Schneider fathers a bill in the legislature, undoubtedly prepared by the local governing board of the party, to transfer from the county judge to the county attorney membership on the board empowered to fill vacancies. At present this board is made up of the county judge, clerk and treasurer. In Douglas county the judge and clerk are republicans, while the treasurer and attorney are democratic. If the Schneider bill becomes law, the democrats will gain control of the board. This is important to them just now, for a democratic member of the Board of County Commissioners is in court, facing charges that may result in his removal. To name his successor is the goal aimed at by the democrats, who may be depended upon to push the Schneider bill with all the powers of the party organization.

An official statement shows a shade less than 6 per cent profit on railroad capital in 1916. The number of railroads included in the average is not indicated, but the melancholy minimum could scarcely have been reached in a boom year without piling in every streak of rust between Canada and the gulf.

"Once a convict, always a convict" is gradually disappearing from the unwritten rules of police. Last year the New York force found employment for 700 ex-convicts and assisted them in other ways toward an honorable livelihood. Helpfulness bridged the gulf in these cases and marks the main highway to penal reform.

## Why Shoes Come High

Literary Digest.

Doubtless some will think it is due somehow to the war; everything seems to be due to the war. But this time the amateur economists are in the wrong. Shoes have gone up because of the astute business ability of a Los Angeles shoe dealer. The story, and it is vouched for by the veracious Kansas City Star, reads like the old saying, "For want of a nail, the kingdom was lost." The high cost of shoes, if we are to believe what the Star says, was sprung, like the great oak, from the acorn of a business man's desire for increased trade. How was it done?

"Women's shoes began to jump about two years ago," said a local shoe dealer, "and a little before this jump was noted you may have observed that the women were beginning to wear high-top shoes—shoes with tops higher than they ever had been before—and in colors that presented a rainbow medley when you got enough of them on the street at the same time. Naturally, the dealers now cry that the shortage in leather has sent up shoe prices, and while that is true in a sense, the war has had very little to do with the leather shortage. Responsibility really rests with an enterprising retail shoe dealer out in Los Angeles.

"I think it was three summers ago that this particular Los Angeles shoe dealer, owner of the largest and smartest shoe store in town, conceived the idea that something extraordinary would have to be done if he were to sell shoes to women who were touring California from the east. There had always been high-topped shoes for women and always shoes in many colors, but they were the kind of shoes (or boots) that one usually saw on the stage. They looked good on the chorus girls and the prima donnas, see? Well, this Los Angeles man sent an agent east and he bought up all these fancy boots that he could find in the course of time there was received by the Los Angeles dealer a job lot of women's fancy shoes that looked like the dream of an opium eater."

No specialist in futurist art, we are told, could evolve a greater variety of colors than those which tinted the wares he received. There were champagnes, ivories, Havana browns, mouse and pearl grays, chamois, smoke grays, pinks and reds and it is whispered no lack of the strange exotic tones so romantically called elephant's breath, song of roses, pigeon milk, negro head and a thousand other indescribable shades piled up from the "Arabian Nights." Then, adds the narrator:

"The dealer makes a great window display of these fancy boots and the women tourists in Los Angeles look upon them, then gasp for breath, then wonder what has happened in the east—or in Paris—and straightway start to buy. "In the course of a few months the tourists from California, returning east, began to startle the women who had remained home and were wearing the common old blacks and tans. The stay-at-homes started a rush on the home shoe stores, the home shoe stores started a rush on the manufacturers and, as a consequence, the leather market was upset and the manufacturers were kept busy night and day making new patterns in a dozen different colors, and totally unaware all the time as to the identity of the man who had started all the excitement."

"Manufacturers, of course, don't let golden opportunities skid down the toboggan. They shot up prices and women's boots of the more than ordinary pattern now range in price from \$12.50 to \$25 a pair. The women would have them and the manufacturers decided that the women must pay for their fun. Not meaning, you understand, that these high-priced boots are not made of expensive material nor that they are not actually worth far more than the fancy boot of an earlier day. But that is the story. The Los Angeles fellow, I dare say the women would still be wearing blacks and tans, leaving the richer and more colorful boots to the musical comedy, which, in my candid opinion, owe a large measure of their decline to the competition which is now offered by female pedestrians on our most frequented highways."

"What price shoe will the average woman buy who enters your shop?" the dealer was asked. "I would say that \$15 a pair would be a fair average. Many go as high as \$25, others drop down to \$10. Many buy shoes at \$12.50 a pair. I should say that \$15 would be the average price."

"How long have you been in the shoe business?" the dealer was asked. "Fifteen years," he replied. "Now, fifteen years ago," the visitor continued, "how many pairs of women's shoes did you sell at, say, \$12.50 a pair?" "Let me tell you something," he said. "If a woman came into the store fifteen years ago and paid as much as \$6 for a pair of shoes, it caused such a commotion among the clerks that we closed the doors after the customer had departed and talked about the unusual incident for a solid hour."

## People and Events

Out of 300 men examined in Chicago for places in the United States signal corps only twenty-four are reported to have passed. This doesn't applaud Chicago's superior physical condition, but maybe the applicants are not representative.

Burglars unawed by fearsome tradition have broken over the so-called "dead line" thrown around the jewelry and financial districts of New York years ago. Three hauls of cash and jewelry from cracked safes in one week indicate that "dead lines" have lost their terrors.

A shrewd laundryman of Chicago, after a try-out of both classes, advertises for "women over 40 years of age for laundry work" in lieu of "girls." He finds the elders stick closer to their jobs, do more work and are preferred over youngsters. Hustle counts, not the years.

Old sea dogs at Portland, Ore., shake their heads and mutter, "I told you so!" At a recent launching the bow of the craft was smeared with loganberry juice instead of champagne. Half way down the ways the boat keeled over and stuck in the mud. At the end of three days the craft took water.

A party by the name of Pat Crowe, competing for a prize of \$25 in Minneapolis, offers as a substitute for "safety first" the motto, "Proceed with caution." "If the slogan is adopted," comments the Minneapolis Tribune, "not only the city but the wide country will be talking about it. Moreover, it may be that the \$25 would come in handy for Pat Crowe."

The Manhattan Association for Improving the Condition of the Poor concludes from its experience in the metropolis that poverty is chiefly caused by sickness. Ninety-five per cent of the relief given last year was to families suffering from the sickness or death of the wage-earner. By comparison, drunkenness, desertion and unemployment were trivial causes.

The Brooklyn Bar Association, composed of 675 members, rallied eighteen members to a meeting which defeated a resolution condemning as unprofessional the acceptance of "any commission or rebate from the charges of printers, stenographers, auctioneers, newspapers or other persons rendering services in connection with litigation." The professional temper of the stay-at-homes is anybody's guess.

William Thebus, Denver druggist and member of the state board of pharmacy, says the first year of prohibition in Colorado boosted the candy industry beyond the dreams of dealers. Many take to sweets as a substitute for drink. "That's fine," comments a Denver dentist. "A fellow can drink if he has 100 holes in his teeth, but, say, when he gets to eating candy he will have to have those holes plugged up, believe me."

## TODAY

## Health Hint for the Day.

For persons subject to colds the daily sniffing of a solution made from Seller's alkaline antiseptic tablets (one tablet to a half a cup of warm water) into the nostrils, and the gargling of the throat with a half pint of cold water twice daily are of great benefit in clearing these parts of germs.

## One Year Ago Today in the War.

Greek officials acquiesced in allies' occupation of Corfu.

Austrians began march through Montenegro to "disarm" the population.

Allies violently bombed German lines in France and Belgium.

Russians captured Austrian positions in Galicia and attacked on Besarabian border.

## In Omaha Thirty Years Ago.

In the district court N. Merriam and others filed a petition asking that Alfred Millard be appointed to succeed his father, the late Ezra Millard, as trustee of a land syndicate which owns a large tract of real estate in Merrick county.

Dr. S. J. Chambers, Omaha's favorite veterinarian, and wife have returned from a flying visit to old England. He left there eighteen years ago, a young stripling, and when he returned, an extra heavyweight, the townsfolk looked upon him as a curiosity. Evidently they got a good opinion of the climate and provender of Nebraska, for Dr. Chambers is a pretty healthy specimen.

Ed Rothery, Archie Rothery and Captain O'Malley have been appointed to attend Paddy Norton's benefit.

Mr. Pennell, with characteristic energy, has gotten together the best boy voices in the city and his choir will sing at the funeral of a quartet of which Mrs. Cotton is the soprano, far surpassing that of any Episcopal church in Omaha. The pretty church also contains a fine organ, manipulated by E. A. Todd.

Miss Carrie Detweiler entertained a few of her friends at her home, Twenty-second and Davenport, in honor of Miss Mamie Oliver of Council Bluffs. Among those present were Misses Mamie Joelin, Annie and Jennie Young, Messrs. John Brown, Charlie Stone, Leonard and Charles Strand.

Miss Rich, a young girl in South Omaha, has painted two creditable fruit pieces that are now on exhibition at Hospe's art store.

## This Day in History.

1788—Lord Byron, the poet who "awoke one morning and found himself famous," born in London. Died in Greece, April 19, 1824.

1789—John H. Latrope, first president of the University of Wisconsin, born at Sherburne, N. Y. Died at Columbia, Mo., August 2, 1866.

1815—Sudden attack upon United States troops by the British at River Raisin, Mich., and massacre of the panic-stricken soldiers by the Indians.

1827—Duke of Wellington appointed commander-in-chief of the British army.

1881—Obelisk brought from Egypt and set up in Central park, New York City.

1890—Adam Forepaugh, famous circus proprietor, died in Philadelphia. Born in 1831.

1901—Victoria, queen of Great Britain and Ireland and empress of India, died at Osborne, Isle of Wight. Born at Kensington, May 24, 1819.

1905—Black Sunday in St. Petersburg; Russian strikers attempted to present a petition to the czar and were fired on by troops.

1898—Steamer Valencia, wrecked off Vancouver Island, with loss of 129 lives.

1910—The Knox plan to neutralize the Manchurian railroads was rejected by France and Great Britain.

1912—United States troops occupied Tientsin in China.

## The Day We Celebrate.

Prince Christian of Schleswig-Holstein, who married a daughter of Queen Victoria, born eighty-six years ago today.

Chase S. Osborn, former governor of Michigan, born in Huntington county, Indiana, fifty-seven years ago today.

Terence V. Powderly, former head of the Knights of Labor, connected with the Department of Labor at Washington, born at Carbondale, Pa., sixty-three years ago today.

Dr. Francis L. Patton, former president of Princeton university, born in Bermuda, seventy-four years ago today.

Amos A. Strunk, outfielder of the Philadelphia American league baseball team, born in Philadelphia, twenty-eight years ago today.

## Timely Jottings and Reminders.

"Gong He Fat Toy," meaning "A Happy New Year." This expression will be on the lips of the celestial elite today, as this is the beginning of the new year of the Chinese.

The American Institute of International Law, organized at the Pan-American conference in Washington last year, begins its second annual meeting today in Havana.

Topeka's sixteenth annual Mid-Winter exposition is to be opened today and will be continued until February 3.

Upward of \$1,000,000 worth of furs will be placed on sale in New York today at the opening of the third in the series of public fur auctions held in that city since the beginning of the war.

The so-called labor cases, in which more than 100 labor union leaders are charged with restraint of trade, are docketed for trial before Federal Judge Landis in Chicago today.

## Storyette of the Day.

There lives in Providence a very matter-of-fact man whose wife is and always has been, a bit sentimental and fond of trying to draw from husband those little endearments he has ever failed to furnish.

"I suppose," said she, on one occasion, "if you should meet some pretty girl you would cease to care for me."

"What nonsense you talk!" said husband. "What do I care for youth or beauty? You suit me all right."

New York Times.

## The Bee's Letter Box

## Endorses The Bee's Stand.

Omaha, Jan. 20.—To the Editor of The Bee: I am glad to see your opposition to such measures as the sale of the state school lands and the bill for child insurance. Both movements should receive a most emphatic condemnation. Let us hope that our state is too far advanced in civilization to countenance either.

There is perhaps little hope of the latter of these two bills getting anywhere, but the unthinking might readily accept the sophistry advanced in support of the first proposition.

That there may be some degree of justice done to those counties in which there are large sections of the state school lands, on account of such counties not receiving taxes from them, is not to be questioned; but the remedy does not lie in the direction of robbing the entire state in order that a few land grabbers might secure a foothold.

If these lands become alienated they are lost forever to the people of the state. As long as they are retained the entire state in a measure is the beneficiary. The more valuable they become the larger will be the revenue to the state. Senator Robertson advances the idea that it is no more in consistent for the state to dispose of these lands than for the federal government to alienate its lands. That may be true. But there are those in this country wise enough to understand that the federal government has been blundering along on this proposition for years. Why need this state follow the same ignorant example?

The time will come when the people of this country will see the blunder on the part of congress. Let the people of Nebraska kill this proposition, so far as this state goes, in order to prevent future regrets.

It is far better that the users of these lands pay the state a rental than become the prey of land grabbers, their substance gouged from them in rents.

If there is no other way, let those counties receive larger apportionment from the school fund in proportion to the taxes they fail to receive from these lands.

L. J. QUINBY.

## Needed High School of Commerce Building.

Omaha, Jan. 19.—To the Editor of The Bee: We notice in most every edition of the papers something about the building of Brownell Hall; how some rich person has donated several thousand, or even hundreds of thousands of dollars for its completion, but it is very seldom that we see anything about the building of our own public schools which are so badly needed.

Take, for example, the High School of Commerce, growing to be one of the largest schools in the city of Omaha. Look at the location, its surroundings and the building. The building itself is not fit for teachers or pupils to dwell in, the rooms are not being properly heated. Then, also, between each period pupils and teachers have to go back and forth from annex to building, or building to annex, regardless of the weather. And then the health doctors will wonder why so many pupils are sick and out of school. This is the reason and the the only one. The school is now so crowded that we can hardly move around between periods. When the February freshmen come, which will be very soon, I don't see what we will do; but we will get along some way, for "where there's a will there's a way," and the will is always to be found at the High School of Commerce.

All the store buildings around, with an addition of eight new annexes, are now used by the High School of Commerce and there is still a demand for more room and the only way to get more room is to have a new building. The citizens of Omaha can have it built. So I hope the citizens will show their spirit and see that this school, which is doing so much for the education of pupils, will have a new building.

HIGH SCHOOL OF COMMERCE PUPIL.

About Ambulance Chasers.  
Omaha, Jan. 19.—To the Editor of The Bee: There is, and has been, so much talk of "ambulance chasers" that a word on the subject may not be out of place. There are two kinds of "ambulance chasers," both equally objectionable. The first ambulance chaser, and the one always on the job, is the claim agent of the corporation or insurance company which has assumed the liability of the accident. This ambulance chaser not infrequently beats the ambulance to the injured party and many persons (so suffering as to be unconscious of their rights) have signed away their rights for a song, and are now inmates of charitable institutions, supported by the community, when they should be supported by those responsible for their injury.

The ambulance chaser who solicits damage suits should also be suppressed, but before he is wiped out of existence the corporation ambulance chaser should be abolished. The workman's compensation law has done much to prevent the bringing of damage suits by employees; but has it been of any real benefit to injured persons? This law should be revised and there should be a rule established which will hold void any "compromise" of any claim for damages until after a certain time—say six weeks or two months—after the accident which caused the injury. When this has been done, then any solicitation of business by lawyers should be declared unlawful; but one ambulance chaser should be given no advantage over the other.

This whole matter really comes up because of the commercializing of the practice of law. We are trying to harmonize commercialism and professionalism.

In my opinion, it cannot be done. All lawyers must earn an income by which to live. Only in recent years has the right of any attorney to a legal claim for fees been recognized. Once the lawyer received "honorarium" and the client was under no legal obligation to pay anything. If the old method persisted (and the most ethical of us would probably object to a change in the present law) there would be fewer lawyers and those in the practice would work for love of the profession and not for the cash which it provides.

I notice one Omaha firm advertises "law business." The conscious or unconscious irony of this advertisement is delicious. We have reached a point where law is recognized as business; therefore, let us not object to "business" methods with all of its advertising, soliciting, huckstering and brokerage—and let the best man win.

Legal ethics still persist in the minds of a few of us who were so unfortunate as to "read" law in the office of some old fog whose love of the profession exceeded his ability as an advertiser. Long live the modern law school. Its prospectus opens the door of imagination to those looking for "easy money," and as it competes with the commercial college, the departments of applied business and applied science of the modern schools it produces its logical results—an annual output of bright young men who will have financial success in spite of the time-worn traditions of the bar.

All hail the "business" of law! Hats off to the new system! The fine old traditions may be shattered; the entire judicial system may be overturned; "substantial justice" may take the place of well-defined law and the will of the man temporarily sitting as "the court" may take the place of rules long established and upon which our entire legal system is founded; but the "business" of law must proceed and only a few "old fogies" are pained because of the friction produced by the inevitable changes of the practice of law from a profession to a business.

H. H. CLAIBORNE.

## Looking Back at the Election.

Scottsbluff, Neb., Jan. 20.—To the Editor of The Bee: Referring to the second chapter of the "Lamentations of Agnew," permit me to say that this attempt to stir up sectional strife by exhuming a skeleton that has been interred for more than half a century deserves only to be mentioned that it may be despised.

Neighbor Agnew has the wrong hypothesis altogether. It may be true enough that the suppression of the colored vote in the south, much as it is to be deplored, contributed to increase Mr. Wilson's majorities in some of the southern states, but it was the intelligent, untrammeled, patriotic republicans of the north and west that cast the decisive votes.

Four distinct elements contributed to Mr. Hughes' defeat: Organized labor, the colored vote, the so-called progressives, the pacifists, and, last, but not least, Mr. Hughes' "sealed bid" for the votes of the un-American element of our foreign-born population.

Mr. Hughes' campaign of criticism was inopportune. Anyone can "find fault." I, even, can criticize, and I am not a candidate for president either.

I would advise Neighbor Agnew to take something for what ails him. I would suggest that he take three grains of tincture of Americanism, dissolved in a tablespoonful of warm patriotism, to be taken just before he writes his regular tri-weekly letter to your Letter Box.

J. F. WEYBRIGHT.

SMILING LINES.  
"That man has more money than he knows what to do with."  
"I heard that and was trying to help him out by showing him several things in which he might invest money. And still I couldn't interest him."—Louisville Courier-Journal.